<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>:

Please cancel claims 4, 5, 30 and 31, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 3, 9, 23, 27, 29, 25, 35 and 49, as follows:

1.   (Amended) A method for determining an order in which to construct objects comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of objects, at least one of the objects including a relationship with another object in the plurality of objects;

identifying at least one relationship between the plurality of objects;

representing the at least one relationship between the plurality of objects using at least one graph; and

topologically sorting the at least one graph to determine the order in which to construct objects in accordance with the at least one relationship and an update to at least one of the objects in the plurality of objects.

3.   (Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of topologically sorting the at least one graph includes the step of selecting sort criteria based on one of performance and correct construction of the plurality of objects.

9.   (Amended) The method as recited in claim 7, wherein the step of publishing includes the steps of:

partitioning the plurality of objects into a plurality of groups; and

publishing all objects belonging to a same group together.

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23.   (Amended) The method of claim 20, further comprising the steps of:

determining if a first compound object and a second compound object embed at least one common changed fragment by:

topologically sorting at least part of a graph including dependence edges between objects;

examining the graph in an order defined by the topological sort; and

constructing a union between a second object and changed fragments needed to construct the second object for at least one edge which begins with the second object and terminates in the first object and for which the second object has changed.

27.   (Amended) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for determining an order in which to construct a plurality of objects, the method steps comprising:

providing a plurality of objects, at least one of the objects including a relationship with another object in the plurality of objects;

identifying at least one relationship between the plurality of objects;

representing the plurality of objects and the at least one relationship between the plurality of objects using at least one graph; and

topologically sorting the at least one graph to determine the order in which to construct objects in accordance with the at least one relationship and an update to at least one of the objects in the plurality of objects.

29.   (Amended) The program storage device as recited in claim 27, wherein the step of topologically sorting the at least one graph includes the step of selecting sort criteria based on one of performance and correct construction of the plurality of objects.

35.   (Amended) The program storage device as recited in claim 33, wherein the step of publishing includes the steps of:

partitioning the plurality of objects into a plurality of groups; and

publishing all objects belonging to a same group together.

49.   (Amended) The program storage device of claim 46, further comprising the steps of:

determining if a first compound object and a second compound object embed at least one common changed fragment by:

topologically sorting a graph including dependence edges between objects;

examining the graph in an order defined by the topological sort; and

constructing a union between a second object and changed fragments needed to construct the second object for at least one edge which begins with the second object and terminates in the first object and for which the second object has changed.